

We thank the many persons involved in this service:

Scripture reader – Jean Miller

Joseph, Mary, & Baby Jesus – Lucas Harnish and Halle Steingass

Angel – Ashton Cluts

Shepherds – Jacob Mast, Kevin King, Tad Steiner

Magi – Elizabeth Kelly, Rich Bucher, Walt Paquin

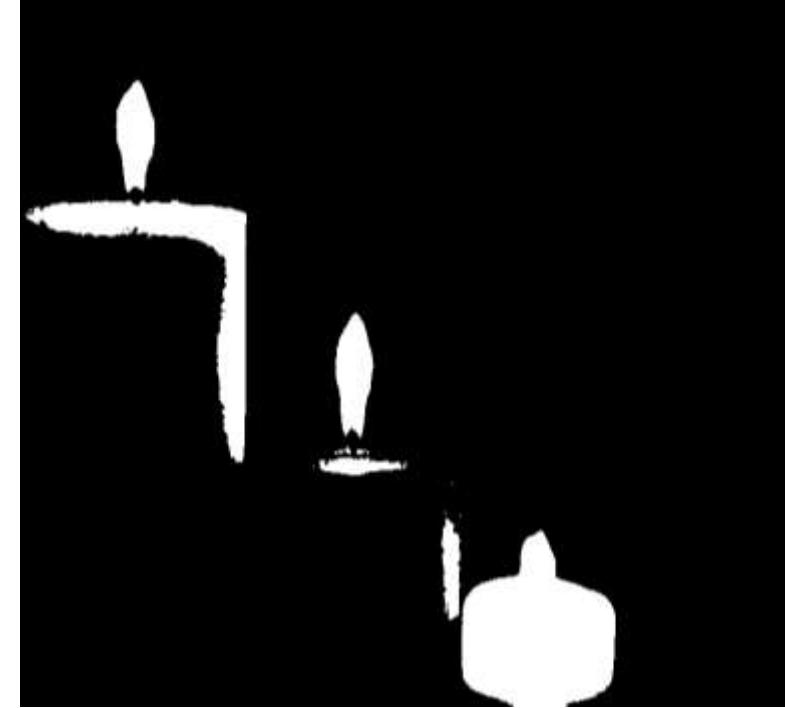
Lighting of Christ candle – Kendra Gott

Lighting of candles – Senior High and Junior High Youth

Piano/Organ – Deb Niswander

Sound operator – Chris Gott

Lights/Tableau prompter – Gary Wetherill



**First Mennonite Church
Christmas Eve Service
December 24, 2017 - 6:30 p.m.**

GATHERING

Prelude "The First Noel/Jesu Joy of Man's Desiring" arr. Cindy Berry
Deb Niswander

Call to Worship and Prayer Wanda Stopher

***Hymn** "Come, thou long-expected Jesus" HWB 178

WORDS OF PROPHECY

Scripture Isaiah 9:2-7 George O'Reilly

Musical Offering "Of the Father's Love Begotten" arr. Rick Bartlett
Ana, Justin, Laurel and Paul Neufeld Weaver and Jan-Christoph Schultze

THE CHRISTMAS STORY

Reading the Christmas Story Jean Miller

Mary, Joseph, and the child - Luke 2:1-7

Hymn "O little Town of Bethlehem" – verses 1-3 HWB 191

Angel and shepherds – Luke 2:8-14

Hymn "Hark! the herald angels sing" HWB 201

The shepherds go to Bethlehem -- Luke 2:15 -20

Musical Offering "O Holy Night" Adolfe Adam
Kaleigh Coffman and Elizabeth Hartzler, duet; Benjamin Hartzler, violin

Wisemen – Matthew 2:1-12

Hymn "As with gladness men of old" – verses 1-3 HWB 218

Offering our Gifts Deacons Benevolent Fund

Offertory "O Little Town of Bethlehem" arr. David Lanz

***Hymn** "O come, all ye faithful" HWB 212

CANDLES AND CAROLS

Lighting of the Christ Candle Kendra Gott

Lighting of Candles Senior High Youth
"Silent Night" – two verses will be sung in the dark

Hymn "Break forth, O beauteous heav'nly light" HWB 203

Pastoral Prayer Wanda Stopher

***Benediction**

***Hymn** "Joy to the world" HWB 318

Postlude "Break Forth into Joy" from "The Christmas Oratorio" J.S.Bach

**Please stand if you are able*

HWB – Hymnal: A Worship Book